

What is claimed is:

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A27 1. A method of operation of a client computer  
comprising the steps of:

- 5 (a) generating a menu of options, at the client  
computer, in response to a user's selection of  
a multilink to a plurality of files;
- (b) transmitting, from the client computer, a  
request for a user-selected file associated  
with a user-selected option.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality  
of files has a unique electronic address and each of the  
options are associated with at least one of the plurality of  
files.

15 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step  
of:

- (c) selecting, at the client computer, the user-  
selected option from the menu of options, the  
user-selected option being associated with the  
user-selected file, step (c) being performed  
intermediate steps (a) and (b).

20 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the request  
transmitted in step (b) identifies the unique electronic  
address of the user-selected file.

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5. The method of claim 4, wherein the multilink is associated with a multilink URL comprising a plurality of electronic addresses.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the menu of options is generated by parsing the plurality of electronic addresses to identify each electronic address and presenting an option in the menu of options for each of the electronic addresses.

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A37 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the menu of options is generated in step (a) by a computer program for parsing the multilink URL to identify the plurality of electronic addresses and generating the menu of options.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the computer program is written in the Javascript programming language.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the plurality of electronic addresses further comprises an electronic address of a default file containing the computer program.

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A4 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:

(d) receiving, at the client computer, the computer program, step (d) being performed before step (a).

11. The method of claim 10 wherein a proxy computer for relaying a communication between a client computer and a server computer interconnects the client computer to the server computer and wherein the proxy computer appends the computer program to every file transmitted from the proxy computer, the method further comprising the step of:

- (e) transmitting, from the proxy computer to the client computer, a file containing a multilink URL, the file having the computer program appended thereto, step (e) being performed before step (d).

12. The method of claim 10 wherein a proxy computer for relaying a communication between a client computer and a server computer interconnects the client computer to the server computer and wherein the proxy computer appends the computer program to every file containing a multilink URL which is transmitted from the proxy computer, the method further comprising the step of:

- (e) transmitting, from the proxy computer to the client computer, a file containing a multilink URL, the file having the computer program appended thereto, step (e) being performed before step (d).

13. The method of claim 10 wherein a proxy computer for relaying a communication between a client computer and a server computer interconnects the client computer to the

server computer and wherein the proxy computer embeds a reference to the computer program in every file transmitted from the proxy computer, the method further comprising the steps of:

- 5 (e) transmitting, from the proxy computer to the client computer, a file containing a multilink URL, the file having the reference to the computer program embedded therein, step (e) being performed before step (d); and
- (f) transmitting, from the client computer, a request for transmission of the computer program to the client computer, step (f) being performed intermediate steps (e) and (d).

14. The method of claim 10 wherein a proxy computer for relaying a communication between a client computer and a server computer interconnects the client computer to the server computer and wherein the proxy computer embeds a reference to the computer program in every file containing a multilink URL which is transmitted from the proxy computer, the method further comprising the steps of:

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- (e) transmitting, from the proxy computer to the client computer, a file containing a multilink URL, the file having the reference to the computer program embedded therein, step (e) being performed before step (d); and
- 25 (f) transmitting, from the client computer, a request for transmission of the computer

program to the client computer, step (f) being performed intermediate steps (e) and (d).

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the menu of options comprises hyperlinks associated with URLs.

5 16. The method of claim 15, wherein at least one of the hyperlinks is a multilink.

10 17. A servicing computer for servicing a request for a file initiated by a client computer connected to the servicing computer by a communications network, the servicing computer comprising:

a memory;

a processor;

15 a first computer program stored in the memory for generating a menu of user-selectable options responsive to a user's selection of a multilink to a plurality of files; and

a second computer program stored in the memory for appending the first computer program to a file transmitted by the servicing computer.

20 18. The servicing computer of claim 17, wherein the servicing computer is a server computer.

19. The servicing computer of claim 17, wherein the servicing computer is a proxy computer for relaying a communication between a client computer and a server computer.

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20. The servicing computer of claim 19, wherein the  
second computer program is configured to append the first  
computer program only to files transmitted by the servicing  
computer which contain a multilink URL.

21. A servicing computer for servicing a request for a  
file initiated by a client computer connected to the servicing  
computer by a communications network, the servicing computer  
comprising:

a memory;

a processor;

a first computer program stored in the memory for  
generating a menu of user-selectable options responsive to a  
user's selection of a multilink to a plurality of files; and

a second computer program stored in the memory for  
embedding a reference to the first computer program to a file  
transmitted by the servicing computer.

22. The servicing computer of claim 21, wherein the  
servicing computer is a server computer.

23. The servicing computer of claim 21, wherein the  
servicing computer is a proxy computer for relaying a  
communication between a client computer and a server computer.

24. The servicing computer of claim 23, wherein the  
second computer program is configured to embed a reference

only in files transmitted by the servicing computer which contain a multilink URL.

25. A client computer comprising:

- 5           a memory;
- a processor;
- a first computer program for generating a menu of user-selectable options responsive to a user's selection, at the client computer, of a multilink to a plurality of files; and
- a second computer program for requesting a file associated with a user-selected option responsive to a user's selection from the menu of the user-selected option.

26. The client computer of claim 25 wherein the first computer program is appended to a file containing a multilink URL.

27. The client computer of claim 25 wherein a reference to the first computer program is embedded in a file containing a multilink URL.

28. A method of operation of a servicing computer for servicing a request from a client computer for a file stored on the servicing computer, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) appending, to the file requested by the client computer, a computer program for generating a

menu of user-selectable options responsive to a user's selection of a multilink; and

- (b) transmitting the file to the client computer responsive to a request therefor.

5           29. A method of claim 28, wherein the computer program for generating a menu is appended in step (a) only if the file contains a multilink URL.

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<sup>A9</sup> 30. A method of operation of a servicing computer for servicing a request from a client computer for a file stored on the servicing computer, the method comprising the steps of:

- 15           (a) embedding, in the file requested by the client computer, a reference to a computer program for generating a menu of user-selectable options responsive to a user's selection of a -multilink; and
- (b) transmitting the file to the client computer responsive to a request therefor.

20           31. The method of claim 30, wherein the computer program for generating a menu is embedded in step (a) only if the file contains a multilink URL.

            32. The method of claim 30, wherein the servicing computer stores the computer program for generating a menu.

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